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PATENT Docket No. LABV.P0002

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY "FIRST CLASS MAIL"

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Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on 3/20, 2000 D

Dag Johansen

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the application of:

Tseung, et al.

Serial No.: 09/483,248

Filing Date: January 14, 2000

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR

AUTOMATIC TISSUE STAINING

Examiner: Not yet assigned

Group Art Unit: not yet assigned

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 and § 1.98, applicants submit for consideration in the above-identified application the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. The Examiner is requested to make these documents of record.

This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

X Within three months of the application filing date or before receipt of a first Office Action on the merits; accordingly, no fee or separate requirements are required.

After receipt of a final Office Action or Notice of Allowance, but before payment of the issue fee. Accordingly, a Petition requesting consideration of the Information Disclosure Statement, an authorization to charge our deposit account, and a Certification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) are provided herein.

Applicants would appreciate the Examiner initialing and returning the Form PTO-1449, indicating that the information has been considered and made of record herein.

This Information Disclosure Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 is not to be construed as a representation that: (i) a complete search has been made; (ii) additional information material to the examination of this application does not exist; (iii) the information, protocols, results and the like reported by third parties are accurate or enabling; or (iv) the above information constitutes prior art to the subject invention.

Dated: 3/20, 2000

Respectfully submitted,

Dag H. Johanser

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